Improved budget applauded at fireside

by Marty Maley
Staff reporter

This quarter's fireside chat opened with applause Monday evening as Central Washington University President Jerilyn McIntyre announced that there will not be a cut in the state's budget for Central's 2004-2005 academic year.

Since 2000, the university has had 16.5 percent in budget cuts, which equates to the loss of over $7 million, McIntyre said.

"I appreciate the patience of students," McIntyre said. "Even though I don't believe tuition should be used to balance budgets, tuition increases have played a significant role."

McIntyre was joined in the reception area of her home by her cabinet: Executive Assistant to the President Libby Street; Provost/Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs David Soltz; Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs Richard Corona; Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management Charlotte Tullos and Vice President for University Relations Paul Baker. The question and answer session was broadcast live on Central's radio station, 88.1 The 'Burg.

Matt Schmitt, senior chemistry education major and student Board of Trustee member, addressed a question to the panel about "PeopleSoft," the software system that will support the Web-based registration this spring when students will register online. Stephanie Bailey provided information on the system's ability to help Central be more efficient and automated.

Brandon Haywood, junior sports marketing promotions major, participates in the PRSSA/Ellensburg Extreme Car Bash prior to the Central men's basketball game last Thursday against Western. For $3 participants got to take three swings at the junker car, which was spray painted with phrases like "WWU Sucks."

Bash for cash

by Susan Bunday
Editor-in-Chief

Student's death leaves family, friends grieving

by Susan Bunday
Editor-in-Chief

Peter Melrose (left) died after a skiing accident Friday, Feb. 20. Melrose is pictured here with friends Stephanie Bailey and James Austell.

Melrose, a 19-year-old freshman at Central Washington University, died in a skiing accident Friday, Feb. 20 at Snoqualmie Summit. While attempting a jump, Melrose broke his neck. He was found alive but was unresponsive.

He died shortly after rescue workers arrived.

"He wasn't scared of anything," Stephanie Bailey, freshman elementary education major and friend of Melrose, said.

Melrose, of Bellevue, is survived by his parents, Steve and Sylvia, and five siblings. He graduated from Hazen High School in 2003. In high school, he participated in both cross-country and track and continued running as a member of the Central cross-country team.

Melrose was also involved in Central's ROTC program and rodeo club. He had hopes of a career as a pilot.

Melrose was a known daredevil among his friends and was never one to back down from a challenge. His friends said they will remember him as a adventurous individual, who was always willing to take a chance.

"He was never so crazy as to do something really dangerous," Jake Crist, freshman undecided, said. "He was safe to a point; he always wanted to push himself."

Other friends will remember Melrose for his attitude on life.

see MELROSE, page 5
Students asked President McIntyre numerous questions Monday night during her quarterly fireside chat. Among the topics discussed were Convergence, campus constriction and residence halls. The question and answer portion of the chat was broadcast by 88.1 The ‘Burg.

CHAT: McIntyre addresses issues

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continued from 1 for fall quarter.

Bill Creighton, senior music education major, continued the conversation about the new system by asking the panel how this would affect the priority registration system that currently allows upper class students to register first for higher level courses.

"It is my understanding that we will not have this priority system," Tullos said. "It is going to be a very strong prerequisite system that is going to make sure that you have had the prerequisite or you will not have an opportunity to get in those classes."

During the one-hour talk, President McIntyre was asked why she felt globalization was important to students at Central and what inspired the choice of globalization series.

"One of our core values and our mission statement is to prepare students for a global society," McIntyre said. "The 21st century is a global society. There are so many dimensions. It has to do with ecology, it has to do with geography, it has to do with political science. The intent of the lecture series is to acquaint students with something that they’re going to have to deal with."

Other questions addressed to the president and her cabinet included the reductions in the open hours of the computer labs around campus, Central’s ethnic studies minor and its status, Brooks Library’s hours of operation, campus construction projects, Convergence, co-ed residence halls and apartments, and the possible uses for the old Samuelson Union recreation building.

President McIntyre holds a fireside chat each quarter to answer questions that students have about the university and its programs. All students are welcome to attend.

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**CORRECTION**

Two weeks ago, the Observer printed a story entitled New program to help ADD/ADHD students cope with disabilities on peer mentoring program for students with ADD/ADHD. The story stated that the program was funded by the Disability Support Services Office and that the program meets in Bouillon Hall.

The program, however, is funded by a student organization called ABLE and meets at 3 p.m. on Mondays and 5 p.m. on Wednesdays in SUB 208.

The Observer strives to present accurate information. If you spot any factual errors please send an email to observer@cwu.edu and let us know.

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**Around the University**

**Dance, support**

An Ellensburg community event called "Support a Kittitas County Free From Hate, Experience a Coalition of the Willing" will take place from 7 p.m. to midnight, Saturday, Feb. 28, at the Elks Club. Admission is $5 at the contributing level and $10 at the supporting level. Tickets are pre-sale and at the door. Bands Brandon Springer, Groove Merchants, Free Beer at Exit 80 and Astro Scooter will entertain. Proceeds go to the Kittitas County Coalition for Human Rights and the Southern Poverty Law Center.

**Science seminar**

The McCracken Computational Sciences Seminar Series presents "Random Tilings," Dr. Henry Cohn from Microsoft’s research theory group. An expert of Washington’s math department will explain this subject at 3 p.m., Tuesday, March 2 in Black 152.

**Summer camp jobs**

Camp Killoqua, located 20 miles northwest of Everett, will be on campus at 9 a.m., Wednesday, March 3 in the SUB pit. Positions run from June 24 to Aug. 21 and may qualify for internship credit.

**International info**

There will be an informational session with Professor Kathleen Knight regarding summer programs in Pau, France from 4 to 5 p.m., Monday, March 1 at the International Center.

**Pajama dancing**

Come in your favorite bedtime apparel to the Swingcats’ next dance Saturday, Feb. 28 in the SUB Ballroom. A beginner swing dance lesson begins at 8:30 p.m. with the dance to follow from 9:30 p.m. until midnight. The event is free for Swingcats club members and $3 for general admission.

**Urban navigation**

Participants in a team Urban Navigation race sponsored by the Army ROTC. Participants will learn navigational skills and the top three teams win prizes. The race begins at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 26 at Peterson Hall.

**Gansango troupe**

African dance troupe Gansango is performing traditional dances at 7 p.m. today in the SUB Theater. An afternoon workshop is being offered to the public. Call Leslie Webb in the Diversity Center at 963-1665 for more information.
Parking fees to increase

by Carol Jodock
Staff reporter

The parking advisory committee at Central Washington University decided this year to raise the price of parking permits by $10 to keep up with the rising cost of maintaining the parking lots.

“We haven’t increased the prices in six or seven years,” Lieutenant Kevin Higgins of the parking advisory committee said.

There are 4,137 total parking spaces on campus to maintain. Parking lots cost about $3,500 per space to construct and each space costs about $240 a year to maintain. Parking fee money goes towards paying the parking services staff, keeping signs readable, keeping the lots clean and painting the spaces’ lines to ensure visibility.

Briefly-

SEX AND GENDER IDEAS

The Center for Student Empowerment will present a program entitled “What Makes a Man a Man?” from 3 to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, March 3 in the Chief Owl room of the SUB.

The program will look at the social construction of gender in the United States and what happens when people go against gender ideals.

DSS ROAD SHOW

For those who want to learn about technology for deaf and hard of hearing students and staff and the new peer mentoring program for students with ADD/ADHD.

VIETNAMESE BUDDHISM

Former Central graduate student and Eastern Kentucky University professor Robert Topmiller, will give a lecture on the Buddhist peace movement in South Vietnam from 1964 to 1966. For more information contact James Cook in the history department at 963-1290.

A Central Washington University parking enforcement officer writes a ticket. Prices to park on-campus will be raised $10 to compensate for an increase in maintenance costs.

“We haven’t increased the prices in six or seven years,” Lieutenant Kevin Higgins of the parking advisory committee said.

There are 4,137 total parking spaces on campus to maintain. Parking lots cost about $3,500 per space to construct and each space costs about $240 a year to maintain. Parking fee money goes towards paying the parking services staff, keeping signs readable, keeping the lots clean and painting the spaces’ lines to ensure visibility.

“Raising the rates only $10 a year is a reasonable amount when looking at other school’s parking prices.” Higgins said at this point there are enough spaces for students and there is no reason to spend the money to make more lots.

“There is parking available to students,” Higgins said. “But it just might not be where you want to park.”

Higgins encourages students to try looking to other lots that aren’t so busy on the north side of campus for parking instead of circling lots hoping for an available space.

Central has some of the lowest parking prices compared to other Northwest colleges. Eastern Washington University’s parking rates range from $60 to $155, Western Washington University’s rates range from $154 to $640, and the University of Washington’s rates range from $680 to $760.

There are no future plans for constructing more parking lots on campus. Higgins said at this point there might not be where you want to park.

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Plant a pea, pack a jacket

Civic Engagement group participates in community service project for Seattle

by Aaron Miller
Asst. Sports editor

Compost, organic food, jackets and fences were all on the agenda last Saturday when eight students went on the Seattle community service project put on by Civic Engagement.

The group, comprised of student leaders from various clubs and organizations on campus, met in the Samuelson Union Building (SUB) parking lot at 6:15 a.m. to depart for the first stop. The first stop was a place called Marra Farm, located in south Seattle. Marra Farm is a half-acre “Giving Garden” that grows organic food that is predominantly distributed to low-income families in the greater Seattle area. In 2003, Marra Farm grew 5,000 pounds of food; this year the volunteers hope to grow twice that much.

The students worked on the farm for two hours. They tilled soil, moved tarps, planted trees, laid out compost and planted seeds that will grow into healthy vegetables.

“This is the time of year when a lot of the dirty work is done,” Sue McGinn, director for Marra Farm said. “It’s not until later in the year when we get to do the glamorous stuff.”

After lunch, the students traveled to Lynnwood to volunteer at World Concern, one of the first organizations on campus, met in the Samuelson Union Building (SUB) parking lot at 6:15 a.m. to depart for the Seattle trip, is optimistic about future trips to the west side.

“I hope these volunteers tell their peers about their experience and then they get more people involved in helping the community,” Rodriguez said. “Everyone enjoyed themselves and learned a lot; I definitely think it was a success.”

Civic Engagement, hopes this is the first of many “immersion excursions” with the local community, but with the students having the ultimate goal is to be able to send people overseas for spring break service projects so they can tackle more global issues.

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Since 1969, a lot of (Central) students have done various "farms",” Jay Forsyth, accounting department chair, said. "A great number have finished first in the state."

Having four top finalists from Central is a tremendous feat, considering that of the 1,014 applicants that took the exam, only 281 received the CPA license. The CPA test requires pre-requisites, diligent studying and fourteen hours of an accountant’s time. Passing the rigorous exam allows them greater understanding of business practices. The exam consists of four parts: Auditing and Attestation, Financial Accounting and Reporting, Regulation and the newly added Business Environment and Concepts section.

"It’s like the bar exam for accounting," Jay Forsyth, accounting dept. chair, said. "Every student needs to be able to show their capability." After April 5, the exam will be computerized and available at testing centers nationwide, five days a week. However, students must still apply to take the CPA exam, meet the Board’s Education Requirements of 150 semester hours with a degree focused on accounting and pay anywhere from $192 to $593 in exam fees.

"Maturity helps,” Forsyth said. "But we do well on all sides. I credit the success of our (accounting department) to the students. They are very capable and hardworking."

For more information on the Certified Public Accountant exams, requirements or criteria, visit the Washington State Board of Accounting Web site at www.cpaboard.wa.gov/exam/ or the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Web site at www.aicpa.org.

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Center provides advising for students in every major area

The advising center is very helpful and they make life easier.

Andres Montero

freshman biology major

to apply for a major, academic policy and credit transfer policies for students with credits from other academic institutions. They also help students with reading and understanding Central Academic Progress System (CAPS) reports.

Carlson said the busiest time for the center is the advising week during early registration and the beginning and end of each quarter. There are three staff members and three students who help run the front desk and answer basic questions.

Pamela Mitchell, senior law and justice major, is an office assistant at the center.

"My job is to answer questions that students ask and I make sure I have the answer to most of the questions," Mitchell said. "The center has helped a lot of students."

Andres Moreno, freshman who plans to major in biology, said he has received all the help he has needed and is thankful for the center.

"The advising center is very helpful and they make life easier," Moreno said. "It is very hard to set up a two-year schedule by yourself, but with their advising it makes it a lot easier."

For more information call the Academic Advising Center at 963-3523 or visit them in Bouillon 206.

MELROSE: Untimely death felt by many on campus

continued from 1

"Peter always told people to "be easy," Bailey said. "It was his favorite thing to say."

Rochelle Mills, freshman physical education major, said it was Melrose's philosophical side that she will remember most.

"He taught me so many life lessons in the short time I knew him," Mills said.

A well-known resident of Meisner Hall, Melrose's easy-going personality made him a favorite peer among other residents.

"He was a friend to anyone who would accept his friendship," Mills said.

Meisner Hall held a meeting Sunday night to discuss the events of the weekend and provide counseling services to grieving students. Jennifer Herbuld, area coordinator for university housing and new student programs, says she is pleased with the way the campus community has come to the aid of these students and the level of professionalism Meisner Resident Assistants have taken during this difficult time.

The Health and Counseling Center is available to grieving students in need of services.

As for Melrose's friends, the outgoing freshman is still with them, having left his humor behind in their hearts.

"He can still make us laugh even though he's not here," Bailey said.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. today at Seattle University Presbyterian.

The UniversityReadership Program provides students with the DAILY RECORD and The New York Times at on-campus locations around Central Washington University.

Newspapers are distributed in the following locations:

Student Union Building (SUB)
Holmes East Dining Hall
Shaw-Smyser
Language and Literature Building
Psychology Building

Why is The UniversityReadership Program important to Central Washington University?

The UniversityReadership Program is designed to enhance the learning environment at Central Washington University while inspiring a newspaper readership habit that will last a lifetime.

The academic environment at Central Washington University is complemented with the content found in the newspapers.

The UniversityReadership Program helps students develop their critical thinking skills by applying real world issues in the context of a learning environment.

Newspaper readership is essential to increase awareness of local, regional and national events. A well-informed student body is better prepared for the world that lies ahead.

Recent Surveys Show...

• Students think reading newspapers is important or very important to their education.

• Students believe the availability of newspapers in their residence halls would contribute to the habit of reading a newspaper on a regular basis.

• Students prefer to obtain newspapers from their residence halls or other on-campus locations.

DAILY RECORD
401 N. Main St. • Ellensburg, WA 98926 • (509) 925-1414

Observer — News — February 26, 2004

Announcing
The 2003-04
College of Arts and Humanities
Student Creativity Awards

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The Raymond Smith Award for Achievement in Scholarship

Must be an undergraduate student enrolled in at least 12 credits during Fall quarter with a declared major or minor in one of the eight departments of CAH.

The George Stillman Award for Achievement in Art

2003-04 genre: Single work of scholarship (e.g., scholarly essay) from any discipline in CAH.

The Betty E. Evans Award for Achievement in Creative Writing

2003-04 genre: Creative nonfiction

The George Stillman Award for Achievement in Art

2003-04 genre: Any musical genre

The Thomas Gause Award for Achievement in Musical Composition

For rules of entry and requirements for submitting work please contact the CAH Dean's Office or see the CAH web site.
Life comes with no guarantee

This Observer is not full of new wisdom (don’t stop reading, that wasn’t an invitation to quit), but is a reminder of familiar words to live by. Life is fragile. Life is not constant. Life promises no tomorrow.

A Central student, 19-year-old Peter Melrose, died while skiing over the weekend and through this tragedy we must remember how precious life is and how quickly death can claim us. Try as we might to think something like death could never happen to one of us, it must be noted that it did happen to one of us. Peter was one of our peers, a member of the Central family.

Life is not something we can take for granted; it comes with no guarantees of any future. Still, we insist on expecting life to give us opportunity after opportunity without hesitation. But we don’t even know if there will be a next year, or a next week or even a tomorrow. It’s not up to us if we get another chance, which makes it all the more important to treasure and relish in the present.

Although many of us may try to coast through life by being cautious and not getting caught up in college lifestyles or immature decisions in an effort to prolong our lives, Melrose wasn’t being inherently reckless either. He wasn’t doing anything stupid or out of the cultural norm, like driving drunk at night or skiing wildly off the beaten path. He was going of a jump many of you have gone off before, one that many of you will continue to go off of. He wasn’t being stupid, but unfortunately his life ended.

What we can take from this tragedy is a reminder of how quickly life can end, how easily we become “dearly departed.” I know I live each day assuming there’s a tomorrow, knowing I will have another day to call my big brother, anticipating another time that I can go to coffee with my friend. I live under a cloud of “maybe later,” “not right now,” and “when things settle down” excuses and I feel so arrogant for rescheduling anything, for assuming anything. Because one day these assumptions may catch up to me, and I won’t have the opportunity to right my wrongs, or say my “I love you’s.” It’s a day these assumptions may catch up to me, and I won’t have the opportunity to reschedule anything, for assuming anything. Because one day we are not invincible. We may not get another opportunity to tell our families we love them, give our best friend a hug or smile at the person sitting next to us. All too often we forget life isn’t permanent until someone our own age dies, quickly snapping us back into reality:

In that exposure to cigarette smoke only gives me PARTIAL bronchial spasms—but I know that a lot of people out there can have a fatal automatic reaction to cigarette smoke.

Even without experiencing health problems, it is still horrendously unpleasant for a nonsmoker to be subjected to that and they shouldn’t have to be. A person’s right to breathe healthy air should supersede someone’s right to smoke anywhere they please. If I am drinking a scotch and soda, I don’t walk over and pour it down another person’s throat. That is what smokers do. They force their drug on everyone else.

I hope that anyone who sees this letter and agrees with me will make an effort to make their feelings known to school administration, perhaps ASCWU-BOD, in order to encourage them to make this a smoke-free campus, perhaps with designated smoking areas. Those who have a health-related issue should make their presence known to disability support services and encourage them to advocate this change. I also hope the Observer

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Letters to the Editor

Campus smokers should not share with others

I find it hard to believe that I am the only person on this campus who is sick and tired of smokers having free reign all over campus to inflict THEIR disgusting habit on everybody else. I hope I am not the only person who is willing to do something about it. You can’t walk down any of the malls to class, without ending up in the exhaust path of at least six smokers on the way to class and then you can’t get in any of the doors without passing through a cloud of smoke. I am perhaps lucky in that exposure to cigarette smoke only gives me PARTIAL bronchial spasms—but I know that a lot of people out there can have a fatal automatic reaction to cigarette smoke.

Even without experiencing health problems, it is still horrendously unpleasant for a nonsmoker to be subjected to that and they shouldn’t have to be. A person’s right to breathe healthy air should supersede someone’s right to smoke anywhere they please. If I am drinking a scotch and soda, I don’t walk over and pour it down another person's throat. That is what smokers do. They force their drug on everyone else.

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Thank you for information on Republicans

I am so glad to finally be hearing about the conservative mind­ed students that share some of the same views as I do. I was starting to worry that there weren’t any others like myself. Thank you Mr. Cavanaugh for informing us about where we can meet and get together with other conservative students. For those that missed it the College Republicans meet at 8:00 p.m. on Thursdays in SUB 204

There needs to be more conservative counterbalances to the overwhelming amount of liberal events on this campus that students are bombarded with on a daily basis ranging from instructors pushing liberal ideology and cancelling classes to attend events in the SUB to going to the SUB and having the “Social Justice Society” being blasted over the loud speakers so loud that there isn’t a place in the SUB that is suitable for relaxation.

I, for one, am tired of the overwhelming amount of liberalism that is forced down the throats of CWU students to the point that I am ready to start doing something to counter it. CWU needs to have more conservative students that aren’t afraid to speak out loud their conservative ideologies and I intend to be one of them.

Thanks again to the College Republicans that are giving conservative students a place on CWU campus to speak conservative ideology and not be afraid of being shut down by angry liberals.

Ben Haines
Sophomore
Political science major

President McIntyre speaks on the budget

Each year since I first arrived at CWU, I have had to inform you of cuts to our state general fund budget. Now, things are looking up a bit. It appears that the state’s rev­enue projections are better than anticipated a year ago and that there are no additional cuts to higher education looming on the horizon. Although this is relative­ly good news, it doesn’t minimize the impact of the cuts we’ve had to absorb over countless years or lessen our overtures to the legisla­tive to provide additional relief. This is the time of year when we begin planning next year’s operating budget in earnest. As we do, one question has arisen that troubles me, one of last year’s cost­saving measures. You will recall that we offered a retirement incentive package to eligible facul­ty and staff last year. This was a variation of a package that had been offered to eligible faculty the prior two years.

Even though we said at the time of last year’s offer that it was unlikely to be available in subse­quent years, some of you have asked if we plan to offer a retire­ment incentive for this coming year.

As legislative session comes to an end, I’ll be able to give you more definitive information on our supplemental operating and capital requests. However, as of today, we simply don’t know very much other than that we don’t until further notice to offer “high­er education. Stuck for updates as we receive them.

Jeryln McIntyre
President
Central Washington University

Clarification on pedestrian mishap

Editor,
I would like to make a com­ment regarding Mr. Sylfie’s letter in last week’s (2/19/04) Observer. I apologize, I had 15th street on the brain when I wrote to the editor. The intersection in question was at D and 17th, my mistake. Furthermore, I am fully aware of, and support, the laws and rights of pedestrian, however in this instance pedestrian law was not the point of the letter.

The point that I failed to make clear was that my vehicle was SLIDING out of control. There was not enough time for me to exit my vehicle, I tried to turn and tap the shoulder of the young lady, I had hoped that her attention might be gained by honking the horn. That seemed like a reasonable assump­tion to me, because in this case the pedestrian could not be bothered with anything so trivial as keeping her eye on approaching vehicle.

In perfect, or even reasonable, road conditions the fact that the young lady just walked out in front of me would not have been a prob­lem.

Ed Badgley
Senior
Computer science major

continued from 6
will run an article about the issue. It is one thing to avoid smoky bars but it is another thing entirely to force students to go to school in order to avoid something as volatile as cigarette smoke. Hopefully CWU will see the light and join some of the other campuses (and states) in this country, that have banned smoking in public areas. At LEAST ban it near building entrances. And to those who smoke, please be courteous to others around you and try to put your­selves in their shoes.

Eriein C. Donahue
Sophomore
Pre-med biology major

Get out of town as fast as you can

by Michael Bennett
Photo editor

With spring break fast approaching, many students are beginning to look at travel plans. While many of these plans will include such exotic locations as Mazatlan, Cancun and Ft. Lauderdale, some students will take a more modest, if not less blurry, vacation.

Everyone should try to travel somewhere, seeing how other cultures live and work in an eye opening experience. Even travel within our own coun­try can be a culture shock. New York City is culturally about as far from rural Louisiana as one can get.

For an even greater shock, you’ll have to shell out about $600 for a trip to Europe or Asia. European offers easy transportation by train and “new” buildings that are as new as anything in the Kinnitas Valley. “Liberal” cities such as Amsterdam and Prague draw tourists by the thousands while England and Ireland offer the ability to visit a new country without having to learn a new language.

Traveling doesn’t have to be expensive, either. Los Angeles is 1200 miles away on I-5, San Francisco is only 800. With four people in a car that’s about only 40 bucks for gas per person. Vancouver is even closer only about three to four hours away depending on border traffic. If you do end up going to Vancouver remember first to bring your passport or birth certificate.

Another way to save money while traveling is to stay at hotels. Hostels are an inexpensive way to find a bed for the night. More like a dorm than a hotel, they usually run about 20 dollars per night. The downside is, like a dorm you share the room with two or three other people. This can be a great way to meet people in a new city and get travel advice.

For spring break, it’s easy to find a way out of town, but what’s most important is getting out of town. If you’re going to travel, you should do it while you’re young, because when you have a spouse, kids, and a career it won’t be as easy (or cheap) to just pick up and go.

Thomas R. Davis
Staff reporter

“Thumbs up to no budget cut for next year at Central.”

-Marty Maley
Staff reporter

“Thumbs up to only three weeks left of this quarter.”

-Berivan Yousify
Staff reporter

“Thumbs up to 99-cent well drinks at the Palace on Thursdays.”

-Andrew Grinaker
Sports editor

THUMBS DOWN

“Thumbs down to drivers who don’t stop for pedestrians. It’s our right of way!”

-Monique Jones
Assoc. Photo editor

“Thumbs down for working two shifts a day.”

-Tich-Pai Chen
Staff reporter

“Thumbs down to the sunshine going away. I’m tired of the clouds.”

-Haley Weston
Staff reporter

“Thumbs down to my roll pack. I wish it was a six pack.”

-Benny Borora
Staff photographer

“Thumbs down to visits to the dental hygienist.”

-Evel Tammelade
Asst. Scene editor

VOICING OPINION

conservative tunnel vision

by George Hawley
Staff reporter

The Republicans have done phenomenally well at the ballot box over the past several years, and if the economy continues to grow and the reconstruc­tion of Iraq proceeds relatively smoothly, we will probably see George W. Bush may run an article about the issue. It is one thing to avoid smoky bars but it is another thing entirely to force students to go to school in order to avoid something as volatile as cigarette smoke. Hopefully CWU will see the light and join some of the other campuses (and states) in this country, that have banned smoking in public areas. At LEAST ban it near building entrances. And to those who smoke, please be courteous to others around you and try to put your­selves in their shoes.

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Eating in the Big World

Michael Bennett/Observer

Jessica Johnson, sophomore undecided, picks up a fast meal at a local grocery store.

by Tyler Davis
Staff reporter

For students who live off campus, putting together a meal is a little harder than heading to the nearest dining hall. In addition to searching for variety, students also must weigh in cost, nutrition and the simple fact that one person can only eat so much Top Ramen.

There are a mix of restaurants and supermarkets located in Ellensburg for off-campus dining and grocery shopping. Among Central Washington University students, there are also mixed emotions pertaining to those off-campus selections.

"Bargain" is the word on students' lips when it comes to picking where to shop, but product variety is also important to some.

Four major chain grocery stores serve Ellensburg—Super 1 Foods, Safeway, Fred Meyer and Albertson's—as well as a handful of local convenience spots, giving grocery shoppers enough room to satisfy their shopping preferences.

"Ellensburg wouldn't be a city without Fred Meyer," Brady Switzer, sophomore social science major, said. "Every once in a while, I'll eat at the Central Cafe (in the Samuelsion Union Building), but if there were lower prices and more parking available for quick stops, I might eat at the other (dining halls) more often.

Students who dine off campus pick their favorite restaurants based on price, food quality and location, as well as other personal motivations.

Sarah Drug, sophomore undecided and five-month vegetarian, applauds the Peace Cafe for its wide variety and quality of vegetarian options. Oddly enough, she also suggests Pizza Hut for vegetarians.

"They actually have several vegan options if you modify some of their selections," Drug said. "I am very disappointed in the lack of quality in the vegetarian options at the dining halls.

DeCote prefers the downtown atmosphere of Sweet Memories Bakery and said Ellensburg at least has an adequate fast food scene.

"Ellensburg also has every fast food restaurant known to man," DuCette said. "There are the chains and local places like Campus U-Tote-Em, which has great food and great milkshakes. All they need here is a Dick's and I'd be happy.

Despite any wishes for big-city variety, students generally enjoy Ellensburg's selection. "I (also) prefer to shop at local stores," Beavert said. "It's good to support your community and local businesses."
African troupe dances tonight

by Tieh-Pai Chen
Staff reporter

Instead of expressing emotion verbally, dancers tell a story through body movement. Not only can dance provide the audience a sense of beauty, it often introduces them to a different culture.

Gansango Dance Company, a group of international dancers and musicians based in Seattle, will bring traditional and contemporary West African music and dance to Central Washington University, 7 p.m. tonight in the Samuelson Union Building Ballroom.

Directed by Etienne Cakpo, originally from Benin (a West African country) and now a teacher and choreographer in Seattle, Gansango features traditional dances from Benin. The performance includes ritualistic dances, regional ceremony dances and royal historical dances from the late 1800s. The company performs regularly in the Seattle area, nationally and internationally.

The Diversity Education Center (DEC) is sponsoring this event as part of a performing series for Black History Month. Leslie Webb, director of the DEC, believes that a cultural and educational event does not necessarily need a lengthy lecture.

"Performance is a feeling thing," Webb said. "The purpose of this event is to expose students to some traditional culture as it relates to the celebration, recognition and exposure of things related to Black History Month."

In addition to the performance, the performers of Gansango will give a free workshop at 3 p.m. this afternoon in Nicholson 106. All students and community members are welcome to come and learn a West African dance.

Therese Young, Central's dance program coordinator, believes the workshop can broaden awareness of different cultures and help people...
Students weigh in on Oscar picks

by Jeremie Wallis
Staff reporter

Love him or hate him, every spring the little bald man descends upon Hollywood bringing glory, heartbreak, smiles and tears to people that get paid more than anyone should without selling their soul. That’s right, it’s Oscar time again, and this year the field of competition is just as fierce as ever.

Twenty people were polled about who they thought would/should take home the Oscars for the big categories. Their picks were matched up against those of Observer’s movie buff, Jeremie Wallis.

Jeremie’s Picks (J)
Central’s Picks (C)

Best Picture
(J) Lord of the Rings (C) Lost in Translation

Best Actor
(J) Johnny Depp: Pirates of the Caribbean (C) Ben Kingsley: The House of Sand and Fog

Best Actress
(J) Natalie Portman: Cold Mountain (C) Patricia Clarkson: Pieces of April

Best Director
City of God (J) Lord of the Rings (C) Lost in Translation

Best Supporting Actor
(J) Tim Robbins: Mystic River (C) Sean Penn: Mystic River

Best Supporting Actress
(Holly Hunter: Thirteen (J) Shohreh Aghdashloo: House of Sand

Best Original Screenplay
(J) Little Miss Sunshine (C) City of God

Best Foreign Language Film
(J) City of God (C) The Motorcycle Diaries

Best Animated Feature
(J) Finding Nemo (C) Shrek

Best Documentary Feature
(J) The Farmyard (C) No End in Sight

Best Visual Effects
(J) The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (C) The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers

Best Cinematography
(J) The Lord of the Rings (C) The Hours

Best Sound Mixing
(J) Seabiscuit (C) Seabiscuit

Best Sound Editing
(J) Mystic River (C) Seabiscuit

Best Original Score
(J) Cold Mountain (C) Gangs of New York

Best Original Song
(J) "I’m Not The Only One" from Cold Mountain (C) "Under the Sea" from Finding Nemo

Best Picture Low Down

Lord of the Rings: Return of the King

Three years have passed since the release of The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring and the world has been waiting for the sequel. Now the Oscar winners have been announced. The world-wide success of the Trilogy combined with the promise of continued excellence in the next two films has kept fans guessing as to who will take the Best Picture trophy.

Lost in Translation

In 2001, Sofia Coppola won the award for Best Director for Lost in Translation. This year she is back with a new movie, Lost in Translation, and is expected to bring home another Oscar-worthy performance for star Renée Zellweger.

Seabiscuit

This year Seabiscuit has received two nominations, Best Picture and Best Actor in a Leading Role. The movie is a biographical story of the horse and his trainer, and is expected to make a strong showing this year.

GANSANGO: Work shop will be offered

continued from 9

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With Coupon

You tell us

Who should take home the Best Actor Oscar and why?

"I really enjoyed Johnny Depp as a drunken miscreant." - Lauren Quock, senior piano performance

"Sean Penn is an extraordinary actor, but I hated the ending (of Mystic River)." - Andrea Ashley, senior history

"Jude Law. I'd do him in a minute." - Caitlin White, junior sociology

"Johnny Depp was incredible." - Nick Delgardano, junior law and justice

"Johnny Depp. It seems like he was the most received by audiences, particularly female." - Sarah Richey, sophomore business and marketing major
The many sides of love get careful examining in the Central Washington University Theatre Arts Department winter production, “Bus Stop,” opening at 7 p.m. tonight in the Milo Smith Tower Theatre.

“Bus Stop,” by William Inge, is well-known both in and out of the theatre, thanks to the 1956 film version starring Marilyn Monroe.

“The play itself is about love in all facets,” George Bellah, Theatre Arts department chair and director of “Bus Stop,” said. “It is full of themes but that’s the central one.”

The story is set in 1955, just west of Kansas City. All of the characters are at a bus stop when a freak snowstorm strands them together.

The play follows each of the characters and how they interact on a very human level.

The focus of the story is the relationship between cowboy rancher Bo Decker (Scott Yingling) and Grace’s (CharRe Burnam) friend and mentor, Virgil (Jordan Holland), and a young diner worker named Elma (Amy Hill).

Theatre arts performance major Tomas Maier.

Other characters in the play include a has-been college professor named Dr. Gerald Lynn (Steve Naboni); the part of the bus stop diner, Grace Hoylard (Charlie Burnum); Grace’s love interest and bus driver, Carl (Alex Garnett); Sheriff Will Masters (Randy Huber); and a young diner worker named Elma (Amy Hill).

Though “Bus Stop” was written by Inge, who is also well-known for his plays “Picnic,” and “The Dark at the Top of the Stairs,” Brenda Valle, senior communication studies major and step show coordinator, said. “The dance entered the college scene post WWII when more and more African Americans began going to college.”

The step shows have become a popular tradition in many black fraternities and sororities.

“I’m excited that we’re able to bring this side of African American culture to the campus,” Cindy Figueroa, communication studies major and associated students of Central Washington University vice president of equity and community partnerships.

Figueroa will be hosting the show along with student Antonio Reeves.

The performance will feature DJ Kun Ken, the most-requested disc jockey for stomp performances in the state for the last six years.

“There’s never been anything like this at this school,” said Edward Powell junior communication major and Black Student Union (BSU) president.

“Steps began when groups of African American men began mimicking the steps of acapella groups such as the Temptations and the Four Tops,” Brenda Valle, senior communication studies major and step show coordinator, said. “The dance entered the college scene post WWII when more and more African Americans began going to college.”

The step show will combine unique styles and culture through traditional and modern dance.

University of Washington (UW) and Washington State University (WSU) are about to “stomp” Central Washington University.

Central is hosting Greek Peak, a free step show performance by UW and WSU sororities and fraternities, 7:30 to 9 p.m., Friday in the Samurai Union Building theater.

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Western ruins party

by Adam Jack
Staff reporter

The Central Washington University men's basketball team had its ups and downs this season and last weekend was its biggest down. The Wildcats had two losses to Western Washington University (WWU) and Seattle Pacific University (SPU) last week. The Wildcats came in riding a five-game winning streak, but were on the losing end in last week's games. The losses dropped the Wildcats to 8-15 overall and 5-9 in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference.

On Thursday, the Wildcats took on WWU in a game where emotions ran high. Two technical fouls were given within the first 35 seconds when Central's Jay Van Hook got into an altercation with Western's Rod Picou, setting the tone for game. WWU gained an early eight-point lead, but the Wildcats got a spark from their bench from junior guard Chris Lynn who scored 14 points in the first half. The Wildcats battled back to cut the deficit to 41-39 at intermission.

In the second half, the Wildcats built a seven-point lead, but WWU stayed close and the lead exchanged hands six times in the second half. WWU's Ryan Diggs hit a jump shot with 1:34 remaining to seal the WWU victory, 84-80.

The Wildcats were led by Lynn who scored 17 points, and senior guard Scott Freymond scored 15 points. The Wildcats got a big contribution from senior forward Mike Connor who scored 12 points and had a career-high 15 rebounds.

"It's so frustrating to lose to Western," junior forward Kyle Boast said. "This is the game that we wanted to win."

In the SPU game on Saturday, the Wildcats lost yet another heartbreaker 73-71.

"We were so pumped for the Western game," Van Hook said. "When we lost it was emotionally draining. It showed in the SPU game."

The Wildcats are on the road this weekend, tonight against Alaska Anchorage, and Saturday against Alaska Fairbanks. Central swept the Alaska schools earlier in the year and hope to do the same thing to them again.

"We beat them before, we can beat them again," Boast said.
How would you feel part of the diving team, dents are on teams. They don't have more music education. You excel individually in." "Annoyed, because I am on the swim team, and because lots of my friends would probably transfer." — Amanda Schank, junior journalism

"Not being a swimmer or a wrestler, I am still really into sports, and it could be bad for a lot of athletes." — Erik Frey, junior, fashion merchandising

Road trip fares well for Wildcats

by Andrew Grinaker
Sports editor

Washington, Alaska, Oregon or California, it doesn't matter what the Central Washington University women's basketball team plays in, they continue to win. Last weekend, with games in Oregon and California, the Wildcats extended their winning streak to five, with wins over Humboldt State University (HSU) and Western Oregon University (WOU). The two wins improved Central's record to 15-9 overall and 9-6 in Great Northwest Athletic Conference play. "We did what we had to do to get wins," Coach Jeff Whitney said. On Thursday, in Arcata, Calif., the Wildcats forced 21 turnovers and came away with a 15 point victory over Humboldt State, 64-49. The Central bench led the way, outscoring HSU 30 to 5, with junior guard Loni Ainslie leading the way with 16 points off the bench. "The starters need a break and it's huge to have the bench keep the game at that level," senior forward Kelsey Ellis said.

The Wildcats' strong defense held the Lumberjacks to 31 percent shooting, the lowest percentage of the season allowed by Central. With a rebounding advantage of 15, the Lumberjacks only managed 22 first-half points. "We defended well and got easy second chance points," Whitney said. Ainslie's 16 points came on six of 11 shooting from the field, three of them from beyond the three point arc. Senior guard Angelia Jansen chipped in 12 points to go along with her six assists. The six assists tied Jensen with former Wildcat Anita Wing for the single season assist record (143). The Lumberjacks were led by Nicole Lynch's 23 points and nine rebounds. Saturday's contest against WOU was a much closer game, with the Wildcats needing 23 free throws in the game to hold off the Seawolves. The Wildcats escaped Monmouth, Ore. with a 61-55 victory. "They weren't great wins, but we overcame the other night," Ellis said. The bench led the way again, outscoring WOU 15-0, with three Wildcat players contributing five points each. "We took our bench did a really good job over the weekend," Whitney said. "Ashley hit some big shots, Lauren helped out on some spells and Alayna had some big shots as well." Although the bench helped out, Central's top three leading scorers led the way. Jensen had 17 points and five assists, while senior Lindsay Weiss and freshman center Laura Wright each had 13 points respectively. The Wildcats held a 30-20 advantage at halftime fueled by a 13-1 run early on in the first half. Despite only making seven of 15 shots in the second half, the Wildcats held onto the lead with 16 second-half free throws. The only concern in Saturday's contest was the number of inside points allowed by the Wildcats. The duo of Shannon Talbott and Serenity Ragone combined for 46 points, 15 rebounds and six assists. However, Central continued the rest of WOU, allowing only two more Seawolves to score in the contest, both starters.

The two victories over the weekend, Central is now 15-9 overall and looking to move up two spots in the West region poll. Before last weekend's game, the Wildcats were ranked tenth in the west region, needing to move up to eight to make the playoffs. Two of their next three games are against opponents that are above them in the GNAC standings.

Tonight, the Wildcats will take on Northwest Nazarene and look to avenge an earlier season loss where the Wildcats gave up 102 points in Nampa, Idaho. On Saturday the Wildcats will face Saint Martin's College, a team that is one half game ahead of Central for third place in the GNAC. Central lost by three points in their last meeting and look to end that streak.

"We started off rocky," Ellis said. "But I think we are coming together at the right time, hopefully its not too late.

Central sports briefs

by Rachel Guillermo
Asst. sports Editor

Baseball
Senior right-hand pitcher Kevin Olson was selected this past weekend as the Great Northwest Athletic Conference Pitcher of the Week for the second time in his Central Washington University baseball career. Olson was the starting pitcher in Central's first nine-inning shutout victory in three years, which won him this week's award. He threw six innings allowing just three hits and striking out four Whitman College hitters in the 7-0 victory. Teammate, junior outfielder/lefthanded pitcher Troy Martin, had a two-run double in the third inning as Central also scored runs in the fourth, seventh and ninth innings giving the Wildcats a three-game sweep over Whitman with a 5-3 victory on Sunday afternoon.

The Wildcats visit Albertson College today for a single game before playing four games in two days at Grand Junction, Colo. Central faces Colorado Mines and Mesa State once each on Feb. 28 and Feb. 29.

Indoor track and field
Four Central Washington University student-athletes took home individual championships, and both of the Wildcats' 4x400 relay squads won conference titles as the Wildcat men and women's teams scored at the inaugural Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) Indoor Track and Field Championships at the Idaho Center on Feb. 21.

Sophomore Terran Legard, won the women's 400 meter title and was named the meet's outstanding female performer and the GNAC's Women's Newcomer of the Year. Legard ran the anchor leg on the Wildcat's title-winning 4x400 relay team, also placing second in the women's 300 and third in the 60-meter dash.

Junior Lea Tiger, senior Justin Lawrence and sophomore Creasup Watson were the other Wildcats that claimed conference championships on Saturday's meet. Tiger and Lawrence took first in the women's and men's triple jump respectively, while Watson recorded the top mark in the high jump.

The Wildcats will have the next three weekends off from track and field competition in preparation for either the indoor national championships in Boston, or the beginning of the outdoor season on March 13. The NCAA will release information regarding official NCAA Division II national qualifiers sometime during the first week of March.

Football
Coach John Zamberlin landed another prep athlete in offensive lineman

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Don't blame those “Damn Yankees”

Opinion by
Krista Donohue
Staff reporter

Baseball has been a part of my life for many years. My family watches baseball every spring and summer. It is just the normal routine around our house. From the time I was a little girl, my parents took my brother and I to Tacoma Rainiers’ games and we attended every Seattle Mariners “but night” games.

When I was in ninth-grade I started visiting my extended family in New York for a month every summer. I started going to New York Yankees’ games, but at the time I wasn’t a big fan. Now that I am 19 and have been going to New York every summer for five years, the Yankees are a big part of my life.

Everyone complains about how the Yankees buy their baseball team, and you can make a strong argument that they do. However, placing the shoe on the other foot, if the Mariners bought their team, the majority of people in Seattle would not be complaining. It’s tiring to hear everyone say that the Yankees are only good because of their payroll. Money does not buy everything. You only have to look back to last September when the Yankees lost the World Series to the Florida Marlins.

The athletes who play for the Yankees are some of the best players in baseball, and now that they have Alex Rodriguez, that may make the team even better. Putting the media hype aside, the Yankees are there to compete. They are a business and owner George Steinbrenner is willing to put more money into his business, that other teams in comparable markets.

Playing by the rules they were given, the “Bronx Bombers”participate in revenue sharing. This is where the big market teams give some percentage of their money to the smaller market teams. At ticket prices and merchandising revenues are harder to come by for small market teams, revenue sharing ideally makes it so that teams will be a bit more equal in their financial flexibilities.

Another big hit to the Yankees is the luxury tax. Each team that has a payroll over $177 million has to pay 17 percent of what they make. As the Yankees have the most expensive payroll in all of Major League Baseball, they are responsible to cough up some dough as a punishment of sorts. Once again, the team follows the rules that were given to them.

There are a lot of owners who could potentially afford players like Alex Rodriguez. Most of these owners just choose not to spend money on these players. The Rangers had enough money to buy Rodriguez and the Red Sox got Ken Griffey Jr. from the Mariners. A lot of teams potentially could afford “superstars,” instead they would rather complain that the Yankees have too many.

Just because Rodriguez got traded to the Yankees does not mean anything. Remember, Rodriguez is shifting positions, which may affect his game. Also, just because the Yankees have so many superstars won’t mean a thing if they cannot produce. With all the superstars the chemistry might not be there; just refer to the 2002 New York Mets if you want to see an incredibly talented group of players fall on their faces.

Recently, Mariners’ President Chuck Armstrong stated they would have pursued Alex Rodriguez if they had known about the deal before it happened.

So, it’s pretty obvious that you don’t have the money the Yankees have, because having such a high payroll doesn’t guarantee a World Series ring.
Skye skiing the Whistler-Blackcomb resort in the coastal mountains of British Columbia is like being in an outdoor lover’s utopia. The village, the snow, the skiing and the shopping at the village shops of Whistler is an indulgence. Whistler is home to 10,000 residents and is nestled 72 miles outside of Vancouver. The houses and mansions are worth the trip. Whistler is consistently ranked in the top three for best ski resort in the world by the magazines “British Telegraph,” “SKI,” “Skiing,” “Freeze Magazine,” “Powder,” and “Transworld.” To say the resort has something for everyone would be an understatement.

“Whistler-Blackcomb is a world class resort,” Chris Strome, Whistler-Blackcomb communications officer said. “It has great skiing, cuisine, history, and events. The nightlife in the village is second to none in Canada. You have to be at least 21 to drink and there are many places to eat. There is something for everyone in Whistler.”

“I love hanging out at the Cinnamon Bear during my vacation with my friends. It has a cultural feel.” Maxx Fish, and Moe foes. Savage is always a favorite for cocktails and dancing. “Liftee Logger Brew.” Sushi Village is a local favorite as is the Teppan Restaurant. For food and appetizers, try Garibaldi Lift Company Bar and Grill or The Crab Shack. Dinner at Telesports BBQ & Pizzeria is great and so is The Bure House for their “Little Logger Brew.”

“Whistler seems to be the stomping ground for ski lovers.”

The diversity and size of the runs is excellent condition. “Skiing is Rad!”

The nightlife in the village is something you have to experience. “To SKI is to live.”

Alpine skiing, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, heli-skiing, National Hockey League tours, Sno-Cat skiing, Cinnamon Bear in the Westin Hotel is a beautiful day near the Whistler/Blackcomb resort. A beautiful day near the Whistler/Blackcomb resort.

PEAK OF THE WEEK: Whistler/Blackcomb BRIEFS: Cheer tryouts

“Whistler-Blackcomb love what they are sponsored by Burton and Salomon, but rental packages are available. Lift tickets range from $44 to $358. Blackcomb has night skiing at $23.

The nightlife in the village is something you have to experience. If you want to go out a laid-back bar after a hard day of skiing, visit the Longhorn Saloon at the base of Whistler. Get your drinks at the Crystal Lounge in the Whistler Village. The Cinnamon Bear in the Westin Hotel is a

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